

REMARKS

In light of the amendments above and remarks to follow, entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7 and amended claims 1, 8, and 9 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Holroyd et al. (5,781,435).

Independent claim 1 recites in part as follows:

“...at least one input processing means having a first processing means ...

at least one output processing means having a second processing means ...

switching means having a third processing means ...

selecting means for receiving said number of commands from said at least one input processing means and for interpreting said number of commands,

wherein said third processing means controls said first processing means and said second processing means, and

wherein said selecting means controls said at least one input processing means, said at least one output processing means, and said recording and/or reproducing means based on said number of commands interpreted by said selecting means...”
(Emphasis added.)

It is respectfully submitted that Holroyd as applied by the Examiner (hereinafter, merely “Holroyd”) does not appear to disclose the above-identified features of amended claim 1. That is, Holroyd does not appear to disclose an input processing means, output processing means, and switching means having a first, second, and third processing means. Rather, Holroyd appears to disclose an input means and an output means that are merely connectors. Further, Holroyd does not appear to disclose that the third processing means of the switching means

controls the processing means of the input processing means and output processing means.

Additionally, Holroyd does not appear to disclose a selecting means as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, amended independent claim 1 is believed to be distinguishable from Holroyd.

For reasons similar or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to claim 1, amended independent claims 8 and 9 are believed to be distinguishable from Holroyd.

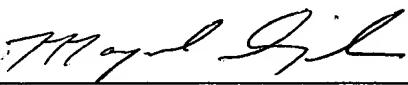
Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1, and, due to such dependency, are believed to be distinguishable from Holroyd for at least the reasons previously described.

In the event, that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited reference, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where, in the reference, there is the basis for a contrary view.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-9 and the allowance of this application with claims 1-9 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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